

A NEW *LEPTOCONOPS* (*HOLOCONOPS*) FROM BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO (DIPTERA: CERATOPOGONIDAE)

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Abstract.—*Leptoconops (Holoconops) doyeri* NEW SPECIES from Baja California, Mexico, is described and male specimens are illustrated. It is compared with its closely related congeners, *L. (H.) bequaerti* (Kieffer) and *L. (H.) linleyi* Wirth & Atchley.

Key Words.—Insecta, Ceratopogonidae, *Leptoconops (Holoconops)*, Baja California

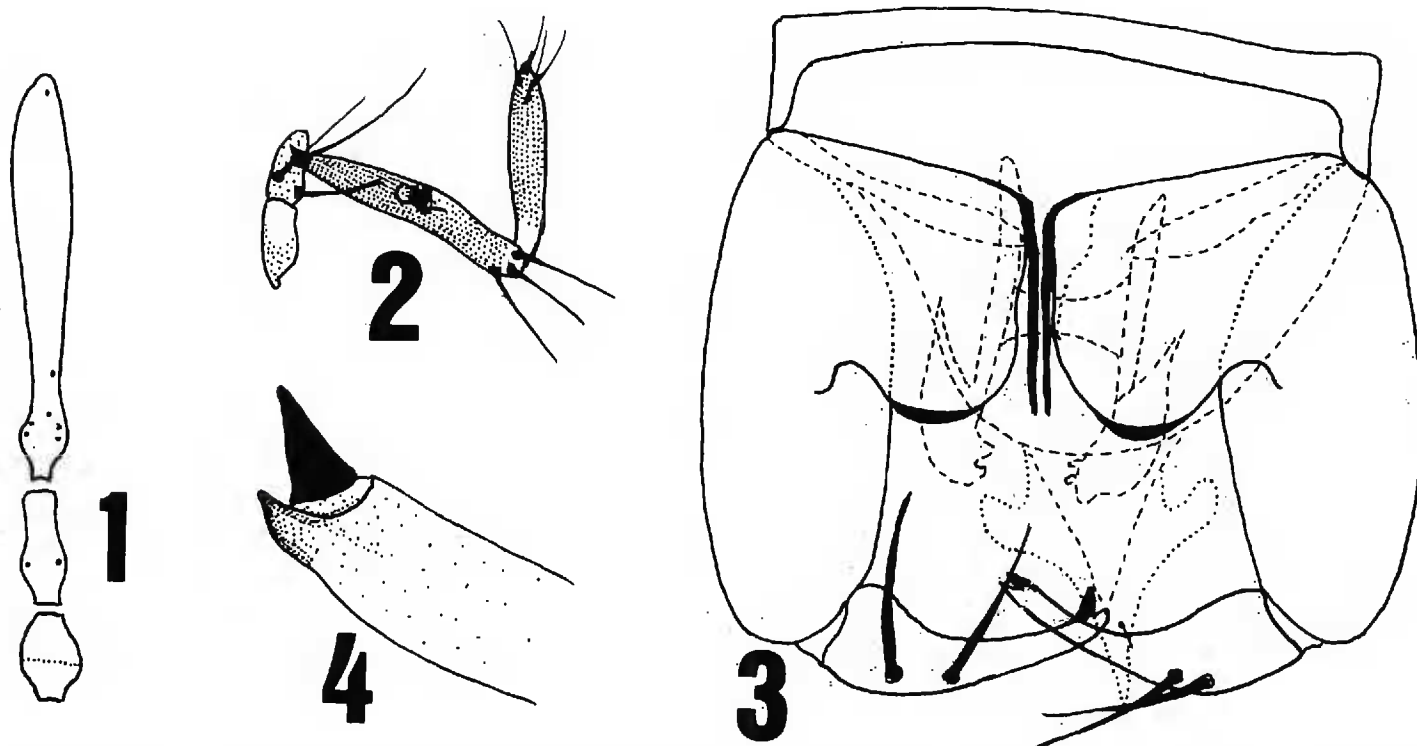
Biting midges of the genus *Leptoconops* Skuse are often extremely annoying, bloodsucking pests in coastal or desert regions (Clastrier & Wirth 1978). Wirth & Atchley (1973) reviewed the North American species of *Leptoconops*. They provided a historical review and systematic accounts of the genus, as well as diagnoses and key for recognition of the New World subgenera. They also recognized 13 species, including the following five in the subgenus *Holoconops* Kieffer: *L. (H.) belkini* Wirth & Atchley, *L. (H.) bequaerti* (Kieffer), *L. (H.) catawbae* (Boesel), *L. (H.) kerteszi* Kieffer, and *L. (H.) linleyi* Wirth & Atchley. Clastrier & Wirth (1978), using new morphological characters in both males and females, excluded *L. kerteszi* from the North American fauna and recognized 11 species in a group that they named by custom the "*kerteszi complex*."

In this paper, we describe and illustrate male specimens of *L. (Holoconops) doyeri* NEW SPECIES, from Baja California, Mexico, which closely resembles the Circum-Caribbean species *L. bequaerti* and the Florida species *L. linleyi*. For terminology see Clastrier & Wirth (1978).

LEPTOCONOPS (HOLOCONOPS) DOYERI, NEW SPECIES (Figs. 1-4)

Types.—Holotype, male, and one male paratype deposited in the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, data: MEXICO. BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE: Bahia de Los Angeles, 18 Apr 1974, J. T. Doyen. Paratype, data: same as holotype, 1 male deposited U.S. National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. Paratype, data: same as holotype, 1 male deposited in the Museo de La Plata, Argentina.

Description.—*Adult Male.* Wing length 1.38 (1.27-1.50) mm, breadth 0.43 (0.39-0.47) mm ($n = 3$). *Head.* Dark brown. Antenna with dense plume; lengths of flagellomeres 11-13 in proportion of 9-16-53 (Fig. 1); pubescence present on flagellomeres 12-13. Palpus (Fig. 2) dark brown, segments 1-2 paler; lengths of segments in proportion of 10-8-25-21; third segment with median sensory pit not very deep containing small pore; sensory setae apparently absent. *Thorax.* Dark brown; 3 posterolateral setae. Legs dark brown, tarsi pale brown; basitarsi of fore leg with (2-4-2) \times 4 dark spines; mid leg (2-2-2) \times 2, (2-3-2) \times 1; hind leg (0-4-1) \times 4; basal setae of fifth tarsomere erect or erect curved; tarsal claws mixed in fore and mid legs, simple in hind leg. Wing with membrane infuscated; costal setae short (23-25), leaving a few voids at base of wing. Halter dark brown. *Genitalia* (Fig. 3). Ninth tergum slightly broader than long, tapering posteriorly with marked caudal modification into trilobed structure; single visible subapical seta. Gonocoxite stout, with conspicuous ventromedian lobe that is



Figures 1–4. *Leptoconops (H.) doyeni* NEW SPECIES, male. Figure 1. Flagellomeres 11–13. Figure 2. Palpus. Figure 3. Genitalia. Figure 4. Tip of gonostylus.

darkly pigmented posteriorly; gonostylus $0.7 \times$ length of gonocoxite, basal one-half broad with pair of strong setae, distal one-half narrowed to sclerotized pointed apex, subterminal spine stout (Fig. 4). Aedeagus represented by pair of narrow, separated, strongly sclerotized sclerites located between swollen basal portion of gonocoxites, not extending beyond them. Parameres with stout, strongly sclerotized basal arms; distal portion fused in H-shaped piece, distal ends stout, each pointed anteriorly and with 2 mesally directed teeth.

Female.—Unknown.

Diagnosis.—*Leptoconops doyeni* NEW SPECIES is a dark brown species that is very similar to *L. bequaerti* and *L. linleyi*, from which it can be distinguished by its larger size, infuscated wing membrane, gonostylus with stronger setae, and aedeagus represented by two separated pieces (distally fused in *L. bequaerti* and *L. linleyi*).

Distribution.—Restricted to the type-locality.

Etymology.—This species is named in honor of John T. Doyen, who collected the type-series.

Material Examined.—See types.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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LITERATURE CITED

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